

## LOCAL NEWS.

**ORANGE & ALEXANDRIA RAILROAD.**—At a meeting of the Washington city Board of Aldermen, on Monday night last, Dr. Magruda, from the special committee to which the subject was referred, made a report upon the bill, to prevent the use of steam engines in the City of Washington, also upon an act granting certain privileges conditionally to the Washington, Alexandria, and Georgetown Railroad Company, together with a communication from a committee of the Board of Trade of the District of Columbia, remonstrating against the passage of the latter bill, and asking "that action be deferred upon this bill until an opportunity be given to the citizens of expressing their views upon a matter of such vital importance to the interests of Washington."

The committee state that, notwithstanding this report has been so long deferred, no remonstrance has been received by them except from the Board of Trade, and a few individuals. They then reviewed the whole subject in the various aspects presented, adding thereto the customs and experience of other cities.

Horse cars passing through streets are not free from peril, as has recently been abundantly proved. Locomotives at four miles an hour are as manageable as horse-power. A train of cars with one locomotive is more easily managed than detached cars drawn by several horses. One man can stop an engine, but cannot control eight horses.

At Rochester, N. Y., engines at the head of trains pass and repass their principal thoroughfares at the rate of thirty miles an hour.

The committee report favorably to the railroad travel, with some additional amendments to furnish all necessary safeguards.

The bill is ordered to be published with the proceedings, and made the special order for next Monday evening.

Pursuant to a notice in the Gazette, a number of citizens, over fifty years of age, assembled in the Hall of the Sun Engine House, on Monday evening last. Mr. W. B. Price was called to the chair, and Mr. Hugh Latham appointed Secretary. Mr. Joseph Padgett, in a few pertinent remarks, stated the object of the call was for the purpose of forming an association, to bring together such of our "oldest inhabitants" as may desire to revive the former friendly and social feelings, once the pride and boast of our city. This is but an incipient step in obtaining a reunion of our old men; it is a nucleus, from which shall grow and flourish, if properly fostered, an association which will prove an ornament to our good old city, and of incalculable benefit to those who may fill the places of the members of the association, when these have "shuffled off this mortal coil" and gone to that "bourne from whence no traveller returns." After a few remarks from other gentlemen present, the meeting adjourned to meet again in the same Hall, on Monday evening, 19th inst., at 7½ o'clock. In consequence of the call not naming an hour for the meeting, several gentlemen who desired to participate, came in after the adjournment, but all expressed their hearty concurrence in the object of the meeting and promised to be present on the 19th.

**ELECTION.**—Polls will be opened in this city to-morrow morning, to take the sense of the voters with regard to the adoption or rejection of the new charter of the city of Alexandria, at the following named places, viz:

For the First Ward, at No. 34, Prince street; Second, at the Council Chamber; Third, at the Court House, and Fourth, at the North-west corner of Prince and Alfred streets. At the same time and places it will be decided whether the minor municipal offices will be, hereafter, at the disposal of the voters of the city, or of the City Councils.

**COUNTY COURT.**—In this Court, yesterday, the will of James Vansant was admitted to probate.

Mrs. Sarah Crupper qualified as administratrix of Robt. Crupper, dec'd.

James A. Duncan qualified as curator of the estate of James Vansant, dec'd.

Summers vs. Arnold—unlawful detainer—verdict for plaintiff, motion for a new trial.

The business before the Court yesterday was of very little interest to the public generally.

We are requested to state by a newly established firm of wood dealers in this city, that so far from there being a scarcity of fuel in this market, they have on hand, and can supply as rapidly as needed, enough to fill the requirements of the city for four years.

In the House of Representatives, on Monday, Mr. Ingersoll, of Illinois, introduced a bill to amend an act extending the charter of the Alexandria and Washington Railroad, passed, March 2d, 1853.

**THE MILITARY COMMISSION.**—The Commission re-assembled this morning, when after the reading of Tuesday's record, Wm. Allan was re-called and cross examined by the Judge Advocate. Messrs. Woodfield, Fields, Horseman, Simmons, Gilbert Simpson, Wm. Simpson, Thos. Simpson, Chas. House, Jas. Bayliss, Travis, Thos. Collingsworth, and Robert Collingsworth composed our party; Mr. Travis' was the only place where we were together; none of our party had any difficulty at Appich's corner with negroes; saw none of our crowd strike or molest any one during Christmas day; gave in my evidence to Captain Hambrick, but not under oath; I saw no difficulty at Chapel Hall; do not recollect seeing Fields at Mr. Cox's.

Mrs. Fannie Huntington, wife of George Huntington, then testified as follows:—Was at home on Christmas day; saw Mr. Fields hand a negro man his coat, and persuade him to go away; saw Mr. Horseman going up King street; he was dressed in dark clothes; saw Fields a short time after I saw Horseman; knew Mr. Fields only by sight; saw no one hurt the negro man whilst Mr. Fields was with him; Mr. Horseman was alone when he passed up the street; saw Horseman pass Bryan's house; did not see him stop there; did not see him have any arms.

Miss Annie Vincent testified as follows: Live on King street, between Alfred and Patrick streets; was at home on Christmas day; know Mr. Horseman by sight; saw him on Christmas day going up King street; did not see him do anything; know Edgar Fields by sight; saw him on Christmas day trying to persuade a negro man to go away from a crowd that had been beating him; the negro man walked off towards the Engine house, pulled off his coat and appeared as though he wanted to come back; did not see any one strike him; this occurred between 1 and 2 o'clock; did not see Horseman with the crowd; he was going up the street alone; there was fighting on the corner of King and Alfred streets after Horseman passed.

Thos. Williams, testified as follows:—Was in Alexandria Christmas day; have known Geo. Huntington for the last 8 or 10 years; was with him all day Christmas; he was with me at Cox's corner, when a negro man was shot; a few moments after some one said there was a disturbance up the street; we went up there; saw a negro man lying in the street; did not know whether he was dead or not; met some three or four persons coming away; did not hear any shooting after we got there; we got there between 1 and 2 o'clock; was in the Rebel army; the Court, at the request of Gen. Wells, instructed the witness to answer no question which he thought might tend to criminate or subject him to arrest; belonged to Kemper's Artillery; was in the service about three years; know Lawler; did not see him during Christmas day; Huntington had on a fur cap, brown coat and light pants; cannot say there was firing or was not at the corner, before we arrived there; did not see Huntington shoot a pistol during the day; saw a disturbance in the afternoon at Cox's between some white persons; no negroes were present.

Coleman Smith, (negro) testified as follows: Have known Huntington some time—was in a house near the corner of King and West sts. when I heard the firing; did not see any one shoot; after I came out, I met Huntington near the corner of King and Paine streets, going towards the crowd about a square and a half from West street; Huntington had on a fur cap; do not know how many shots were fired at Anderson; think there were several shots fired; am certain that there were two shots fired; but there might have been more; did not see any one shoot at Anderson; saw Bryan Hall in the crowd; he was very noisy; did not see anything in Huntington's hands; spoke to him; did not see Anderson fall; saw him lying in the street after he was shot; the crowd of men were standing on the corner near an old pump; do not know what direction the shots came from; Mr. Huntington was not under the influence of liquor; had a conversation with Geo. Huntington's father, with reference to his son's behavior on Christmas day.

Wm. Meade testified as follows: Have known Huntington 10 or 12 years; saw him at his house on Christmas day; whilst standing on Cox's corner some one passed and said there was fighting on West street; Huntington and myself went up there and found that a negro had been killed; was with Huntington about ½ of an hour before we went to West street; remained there about one minute, then returned down the street; met some persons coming and some going from and to the corner of West and King streets; did not see any crowd rushing away from the place of the disturbance; Huntington, Williams, and myself came away together; when near the Empire House saw Mr. Huntington with a small four barreled pistol; pistol belonged to me; it was out of order and could not be fired; do not recollect of ever seeing Huntington with a pistol.

The Commission, at 2½ o'clock, adjourned till to-morrow morning at 11½ o'clock.

The skating on Hunting Creek is now tolerably good, and many avail themselves of the opportunity thus afforded to indulge in the sport. On yesterday evening, skaters—male and female—were quite numerous in the neighborhood of the bridge over that stream.

A week or so ago several communications appeared in this paper, complaining of the want of information among the mass of our citizens respecting the provisions of the bills passed by the Legislature, granting a new charter to this city, and authorizing the connexion of the Manassas Gap and Winchester and Potomac Railroads. In response to the authors of these communications we have to say that owing to unavoidable circumstances, the Gazette has up to this time been unable from its size to contain, in addition to the current and local news of the day, such an additional amount of matter as is contained in the New Charter; and that a copy of the railroad connexion bill, being short, was published as soon as it was received. Nor are our Delegates in the Legislature are all to blame in the matter. Every member in the House of Delegates is furnished with but one copy of each bill, and when they require more—unless they are so fortunate as to be plentifully supplied with money, which happy condition is the lot of but few in Virginia now—they have to depend on the kindness and courtesy of other members. We understand that about thirty copies of the New Charter, were obtained in this manner by our Representatives in the Legislature, and distributed to the commissioners of the election to be held to-morrow; as they were supposed to be the persons most likely to disseminate their contents. With regard to the bill allowing the railroad connexion, we are informed that the resolution in which form it first came up in the Legislature was removed from the House, hurried through the Senate, in the form of a bill, and presented for the final action of the House of Delegates, but two or three days before its passage.

The amount subscribed and collected through the agency of the Mayor, and the committee appointed at the meeting, held by the ladies and gentlemen of this city to raise funds for the poor, is, up to this date, \$450.

A great deal of suffering has been relieved by the judicious distribution of a portion of this sum.

A party arrived in this city yesterday morning from New York in search of two men, John James Williams and Charles Brown, who were arrested here on Saturday last, and committed to jail, for attempting to steal a boat from Cape Lowe, who had been guilty of a theft in that city.

As will be seen by a notice from the Mayor, the Soup House will be opened on Friday next, and Soup will, on that day, and on each day thereafter, be issued to the destitute of our city.

**POLICE REPORT.**—There were no cases worth reporting at the Mayor's or Magistrates' Office this morning.

The most energetic measures are being adopted in many cities and towns, in regard to the threatened appearance of the cholera in this country—an appearance which all seem to look for. Whilst this example of preparation and precaution is before us, we trust it will not be neglected by the authorities in Alexandria, where there are elements for the spread of the dreaded disease, which are evident enough without further remark. It will be criminal to omit the use of any means in our power, for guarding against the ravages of the pestilence. We are not alarmists—but we urge preparation and the adoption of sanitary regulations.

[COMMUNICATED.]

The new City Charter upon which we are to vote to-morrow, without having had an opportunity of reading it—"to go it blind"—extends the general jurisdiction of the Council to the middle of Hunting Creek, thus subjecting the persons and property residing or being between the Creek and the present city line, to our heavy taxes, without allowing them the poor privilege of a say on the subject; for none but those now within the corporate limits are to be allowed even to go it "in manner and form aforesaid." This extension was made before, but was promptly repealed by the Legislature on the application of the persons effected by it.

GOLD.

NEW YORK, February 7.—Gold, 139½.

## NOTICE.

MAYOR'S OFFICE, Feb. 7, 1860.  
A suitable building having been procured, and efficient arrangements made for opening a Soup House, this is to give notice that on FRIDAY, the 9th instant, and on each day thereafter, until further notice, between the hours of eleven and twelve o'clock, Soup will be issued to the poor and destitute of this city, from the Old Soup House, on Royal, between King and Prince streets. C. A. WARE, Mayor.  
Feb 7—1t

ATTENTION! ATTENTION!  
GREAT INDUCEMENTS.

The undersigned begs leave to inform the citizens of Alexandria and vicinity, that he is selling his entire stock, consisting of

DRY GOODS,  
FANCY GOODS,  
BOOTS AND SHOES,

at and below cost, as he positively intends closing business by the 15th of March.

He will sell you:—

Calicoes, best quality, from 23 to 25 cts., worth 30 cents.

Muslin Delaines from 30 to 33 cts., worth 37c.

Cotton and Silk Poplins, less than cost.

Black Alpacaes at 45 cts., worth 75 cts.

All Wool Flannels from 40 cts., and upwards.

French Merinoes, best quality, from \$1.15 to \$1.37, worth \$2.

Bleached Cottons at 27 cts. and upwards;

Brown Cottons 25 cts. and upwards; Ladies

Morocco Boots from \$1.75 to \$2.25; Boys Boots

from \$1.30 to \$1.75, and a great many other things too numerous to mention.

N. B.—All persons indebted to me will please call as soon as practicable and make settlement.

WM. SILVERMAN,  
No. 222½ King street,  
2nd door from Alfred.

My Store will be closed every Saturday.  
Jan 10—1m

**WANTED.—LAND IN EXCHANGE FOR CITY PROPERTY.**—The business stand, known as the Parker House, on Duke street, Alexandria, a wooden house, three stories and basement, containing 16 rooms, will be exchanged for land in the neighboring counties. A fine bargain is here offered to any one wishing to exchange country for city property. For further particulars apply to

HILL & TUCKER,  
Feb 5—1t No. 125 King street.

**NOTICE.**—The firm of BUCKINGHAM & YOHE is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Wm. Buckingham will be the claimant for, or against the concern, and will continue business in the name of WM. BUCKINGHAM. Alex. Feb. 3 1860 Feb 5—1t

**NOTICE.**—Stolen from my stable last night, a large BAY MARE, about sixteen hands high, a long and full tail, light colored white, with a sore from scratches between armpit and hock, a mark from a saddle sore on the right side of her withers. I will give a liberal reward for her recovery. GEORGE H. BULLOCK, Feb 3—1w Brady Station, Cap. of Va.

**THE PARTNERSHIP OF JAMES E. BERTS & JOHN T. BERTS** is this day dissolved by mutual consent. Those indebted to the late firm will please settle their accounts without delay, and those having claims will present them for settlement to either of the subscribers.

ROBERT BERTS,  
JAN 31—dlm EDWARD BERTS.

**THE MILLING BUSINESS AS CONDUCTED** on by the late firm of BERTS & BERTS, will hereafter be conducted by JOHN T. BERTS. Old customers promptly supplied and no change solicited. EDWARD BERTS, Jan 31—dlm

**SEED!** SEED!

LANDRETH'S GARDEN SEEDS.

We have just opened our list of seeds of

LANDRETH'S GARDEN SEEDS.

Catalogues can be had on application to

Jan 31—lm E. S. LEADBEATER & CO.

**FOR RENT.**—The two lower stories in the

Gazette building, on Union street, with

gas, water, &c., admirably suited for offices.

Or they can be both thrown into one and used

for store. Apply at the Gazette office. Jan 25—2w

**Commission Merchants.**

GEORGE H. ROBINSON,

GROCEER, FORWARDING,

AND COMMISSION MERCHANT,

No. 5, Union st., ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Particular attention paid to the selling of all

kinds of country produce. Goods forwarded

promptly. no 21—1t

**THOMAS PERRY,**

FORWARDING AND

COMMISSION MERCHANT,

NO. 2, PRINCE STREET,

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Farmer's furnished with Guano, Farming

implements, Groceries, &c., at the lowest market

rates FOR CASH. aug 25—1t

**JOHN S. KNOX, JR.,**

(Formerly Knox & Bro.)

FORWARDING AND COMMISSION

MERCHANT,

No. 10, Union street,

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Country Produce Bought and Sold.

ly 26—1t

**W. A. SMOOT,**

FORWARDING & COMMISSION

MERCHANT,

No. 21, North Union Street,

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Country Produce Bought and Sold.

Feb 3—6m

**J. H. DEVAUGHN,**

NO. 130, KING STREET,

(Old Stand),

ALEXANDRIA, VA.

Manufacturer and dealer in all kinds of

FURNITURE, which he keeps on hand as

LOW as it can be bought in any house in the

city. He would invite those in want of Furniture, to give him a call before they purchase.

HAIR, Husk, and Boxwood MATRESSES, Feather Beds, Bolsters and Pillows, made to order at the shortest notice. For sale, low for cash. aug 3—6m

**NEWSPAPERS,** for Wrapping Paper, for

sale at this office. nov 17—8t